Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph at page 9, lines 6-17 with the following amendment paragraph:

Figure 6 shows the effect of the NCAM F3 module 2 and its FGFR binding part (the FG loop peptide (SEQ ID NO:1)) on neurite outgrowth from hippocampal neurons. **a)** Phase contrast micrograph of control (untreated) neuron. **b)** Phase contrast micrograph of neurons treated with 5 μM F3 module. **c)** Neurite length versus the concentration of the F3 module, the FG-loop peptide (SEQ ID NO:1) and a truncated version (AAs 6-12) of the peptide. **d)** Effect of an anti-FGFR antibody on neurite outgrowth induced by 5μM F3 module or 50 μM FG loop peptide. **e)** Effect of substitutions of the various amino acids with Ala in the FG loop peptide or truncated versions of the peptide on neurite outgrowth from hippocampal neurons. The concentration of the various peptides was in all cases 50 μM. Four independent experiments were performed. Error bar represents one standard error of the mean. * and ** stand for statistical significance of $p<0.05$ and $p<0.01$, respectively (by t-test). The first sequence recited in Fig. 6(e) is SEQ ID NO:1. The remaining sequences are, in order, SEQ ID NOs:147, 148, AAs 5-13 of SEQ ID NO:1, AAs 6-12 of SEQ ID NO:1, SEQ ID NOs:149-154.

At page 9, line 32, please insert the following new paragraph:

The sequences in Fig. 8(a) are in order AAs 6-12 of SEQ ID NO:1, and SEQ ID NO:155. In Fig. 8(b) we have in order AAs 6-12 of SEQ ID NO:1, and SEQ ID NOs:155-161.

Please replace the paragraph at page 10, lines 8-11 with the following amended paragraph:

Figure 10 shows immunoreactivity of the intact FGL-peptide (SEQ ID NO: 1) (open bar) and various truncated variants thereof (t1-t6, cross-hatched bars) with polyclonal antibody raised against the intact FGL-peptide measured by competitive ELISA.

The sequences of Fig. 10 are, in order, SEQ ID NO:1, AAs 4-25, 7-15, 9-15, 1-12, 1-9 and 1-6 of SEQ ID NO:1